



TOP OF THE HILL



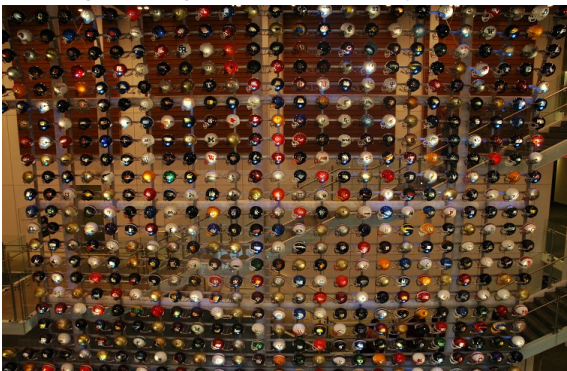
MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
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Atlanta was Awesome!!!

College Football Hall of Fame

By William Stewart

After arriving in Atlanta and eating at the CNN center, the 8th grade class journeyed to the brand new College Football Hall of Fame. Built in August 2014, the College Football Hall of Fame offers many modern interactive displays that allow the fan to enjoy and learn all aspects of the game, from calling plays and talking on the set of *College GameDay*, to catching passes and kicking field goals on the 45-yard



turf field on the main level. We were greeted at the entrance by a massive wall of football helmets, where every

football school from all divisions in the nation was represented. Whenever a fan registered their favorite team, the helmet of their team lights up for the duration they are there. On the highest of the three levels, there was a presentation of all the Hall of Fame members.

You could check out all of your team's Hall of Fame members by using many of the monitors located in the middle of the large room. On the second level, there are many interactive displays, one section on the level is dedicated to the game day experience. You are able to talk alongside the hosts of *College GameDay*, see displays of tailgating as well as stadiums and their fans. Another section of the level is dedicated to the development of college football, from the evolution of the padded, helmets, and jerseys, to what it takes to be a great player and coach. On the base level, there is a 45-yard field, where we were able to kick field goals, make diving catches, and even show off



*Jackson Hannah, Coach Brock,
Jackson Lampley, and Hunter Burch*

our best touchdown celebrations. The College Football Hall of Fame was a huge success for the eighth grade, and the seventh graders should be looking forward to going there next year.

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ATLANTA

Andretti World

By Arthur Laffer

After the MBA 8th grade class had lots of fun going to the CNN Center and visiting the College Football Hall of Fame, we finished our day by driving to the amazing arcade called Andretti World to play arcade games, zip-line, and drive on the karting track.

On the 8th grade class trip to Atlanta, we had a lot of fun at Andretti World. Andretti World is an arcade in Atlanta that was created by the world famous racer, Mario Andretti, after he won Formula One, Indy Car, World Sportscar Championship, and NASCAR. To fuel ourselves for the games and racing that lay ahead, we had a taco buffet and lemonade. At the front of the arcade there was a racing simulator that suspended you five



feet in the air on a seat that reacted to turns, crashes and braking. The kart track was an oval on which we lapped a certain number of times. The arcade was full of many games such as hunting games, racing games, and fighting games. One game that many people enjoyed was a shooting ride, where you were on a vehicle, and you have to shoot monsters on the screen to get points. Many people duked it out

at the giant version of flappy bird and a giant hunting game. Two boys found a way to keep playing games



over and over again by swiping the game multiple times, so they had enough credits to play for a while after their card expired. The zip-line at the arcade was also very fun. It stretched from one side of the building to the other over the racing karts below. Andretti World was a very fun part of our journey through Atlanta, and I think that I speak for the whole 8th grade when I say that the 8th grade Atlanta trip is the best trip we've had so far.



ATLANTA

Atlanta Braves Game

By William Stewart

The second day of the eighth-grade class trip concluded with a visit to Turner Field to watch the Braves take on the New York Mets in their home opener. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Atlanta Braves organization, former players, managers, and owners were recognized prior to the game. We arrived early enough to watch the teams warm up and go through batting practice on the field. The rain forced the game to be delayed more than an hour, which gave us more than enough time to explore the relatively new stadium and its various shops, concession stands, and even a Hall of Fame. After the lengthy delay, the game between the 3-0 Braves versus the 2-1 Mets finally began. The Braves fed off of



the electric atmosphere at Turner Field, jumping to an early 2-0 lead in the first inning by means of a home run to right center field by Cameron Maybin that did not land too far away from our seats. After the Braves were able to get one more run in the third inning, the Mets unleashed two home runs, evening up the score 3-3 in the fourth inning. However, in the eighth inning, the Braves were able to plate two more runs, which were enough to hold off the Mets to win the game 5-3.

During the game, we

participated in many events, from chanting the Braves' war chant along with the entire stadium, to attempting to get on the Jumbotron. Despite never appearing on the Jumbotron, some members of the eighth grade were able to lure the *Fox Sports* cameraman into filming and putting them on TV late into the game. Despite many failed attempts, the eighth grade persisted and was able to start a wave that traveled around the entire stadium numerous times. Everyone had a great time cheering



on the Braves as they won their home opener versus the Mets.



ATLANTA

Paintball in the Rain

By Jackson Singer

On a rainy day in Atlanta, the 8th grade went to Paintball Atlanta. When the 8th grade arrived after a thirty minute drive, there was a little trouble getting the buses out of the grass. After about a twenty minute delay, the 8th grade got their equipment needed to play. When we got the equipment, the leaders told us how to play and what to do when we were on and off the fields. At the facility, there were three or four fields, including a practice range to test skills and accuracy. As we started the games, there were many complaints about how the rain affected the vision in the mask, but that did not stop anyone from having fun. The counselors split the teams up into the team with bands and the team without bands. Full of excitement, the boys headed to their

fields and started to play. Many guys were hit in the head, arm, leg, and many other places. After two or three games of entertaining paintball, we headed back to the rest area to eat pizza, drink plenty of soft drinks, and talk about where we got hit and where we hit people. When everyone had finished their games, the leaders of

Paintball Atlanta hyped everyone up for a final capture-the-flag game with the whole grade participating. Many teachers, including Coach Simpson and Coach Russ, were very skilled, which helped them in many ways. During the final intense game in the woods, there were many people getting shot in a short thirty minute time



period. After a great day at Paintball Atlanta, the 8th grade headed to the bus dirty and stinky. When everyone arrived at the La Quinta Inn, we all rested and waited for the Atlanta Braves game.



ATLANTA

Eighth Grade Speeds Through Six Flags

By Julian Habermann

After a good night's rest, following the Atlanta Braves game, the eighth grade traveled to Six Flags Atlanta to spend the day until the departure home. With many thrill filled rides, the day was assured to be great. We arrived an hour earlier than the opening, and everyone was filled with excitement. Finally after the anxious wait, the gates flung open, and groups were formed. This event was the beginning of my favorite day on the trip.

For anyone who enjoys roller-coasters, this day was great. Everyone scrambled to ride as many roller coasters as possible. People even bought fast passes to



expedite the process, despite the cost. Personally, I was able to ride on almost all of the roller coasters and hope to provide a guide for the current seventh graders and reflections on my favorite rides.

Six Flags of Atlanta provides many unique rides throughout the park. To start off, my least favorite ride was called the Ninja. Although the ride was decent, my head banged against the sidebars over and over due to the intense turns. Besides the Ninja, I enjoyed the rest of the rides. The Batman ride is unique because you are riding a normal intense roller coaster, but backwards. The Dare Devil Drop astounded me with its giant beyond vertical drop. The Great American Scream Machine, despite being

wooden, still was full of thrills. Finally, my three favorite rides blew the rest out of the water. The Georgia Scorchers is an action packed ride which is amplified by the fact that you have to stand up while riding. The

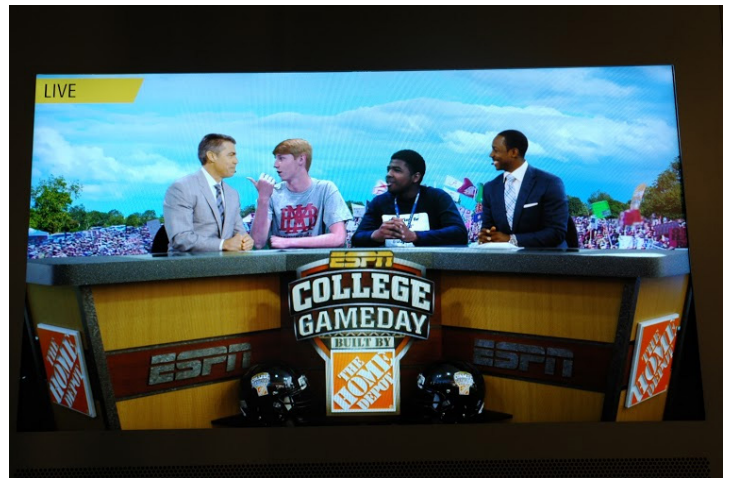
Goliath can only be described with one word, HUGE. At 20 stories high, the first drop reaches 70 miles per hour. Despite the Goliath's enormous size, I still believe that the Superman is the best ride in the park. With the track above and your body positioned laying down, it actually seems like you are flying. I would advise anyone to wait extra just to be in the front row to experience the ride's full potential.



Six Flags was a great way to finish the day and the trip. For anyone stopping in Atlanta, I would advise you to go. For people who have never gone on a roller coaster before, it is a thrill. I hope that everyone has a chance to go if you have not already, and that you have a great time.



ATLANTA



Photos Courtesy of Ms. Maggie Raines

Annual JS Poetry Competition Winners!



Matthew Kaplan



John Thornton



Joel Elasy



Ben Wood

Junior School Tradition Continues with Ninth Annual Poetry Recitation

The final round of the ninth annual Junior School Poetry Recitation Contest was held on April 22 in the Dead Poets Society Room. The competition is a celebration of National Poetry Month and the culmination of a year of quarterly recitation work by each student in the Junior School. The rounds begin with a representative from each English class and end with the seventh-grade finalists facing off against the eighth-grade finalists. This year's representatives for the seventh grade were Matthew Kaplan and John Thornton, and the eighth-grade winners were Joel Elasy and Ben Wood. The finalists were quite varied with their presentations. Ben and Joel presented impassioned renditions of Marc Antony's funeral speech in *Julius Caesar*, and Matthew and John took forthright and inspirational approaches with Rudyard Kipling's "If." Each performance was strong, and the competition was fierce, but seventh-grader Matthew Kaplan emerged the victor. Congratulations to each of these young men for their hard work and fine performances.

Images from S.T.E.M. Day

Coding, Math, and Science at Harpeth Hall

By Arthur Laffer

S.T.E.M. Day is a day that recognizes Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. This year, S.T.E.M. Day was hosted by Harpeth Hall. At around noon, the MBA 8th grade got on buses and went over to Harpeth Hall to participate in a day full of coding and academic activities that challenged us to think



together as a team. We were divided into group with half being MBA and half Harpeth Hall Students. The first ten groups remained in the gym,

to a different activity, which was coding. At the informative coding demonstration, we learned the basic tools to format code in javascript. To get a feel for programming, we used a website called *JSFiddle*, and using that, we roughly copied the code from the speaker's powerpoint. The programs that we wrote did simple things such as saying "hi," asking you a question, or giving comments to answers to those questions. S.T.E.M. Day was great this

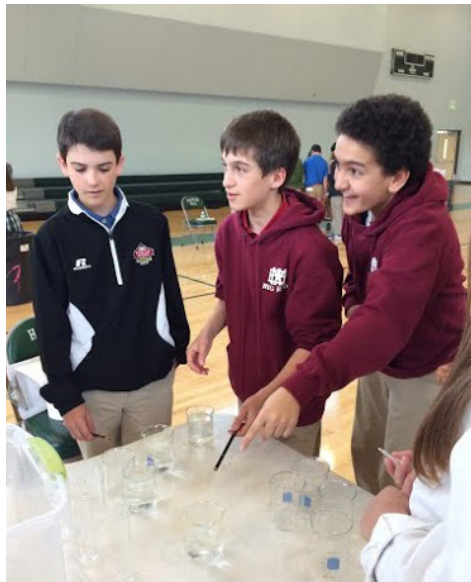


where we began our activities. There were many challenges at each station such as mental math, memorization, paper airplane making, building paper structures, board games, etc. After all of the groups finished each station, we were served pizza for lunch. After that, we headed

year. We had a lot of fun doing the



many academic activities with the Harpeth Hall girls, and I think we learned a lot about coding and really enjoyed it.



Images from S.T.E.M. Day



Photos Courtesy of Ms. Maggie Raines

Ave atque vale, Mrs. Christeson!

By Julian Habermann

After 39 years of teaching, Mrs. Christeson will retire this year. To commemorate her many years, we decided to set up an interview. Personally, I had Mrs. Christeson as my advisor, so I wrote some questions to ask her. Without further ado, here is the end of the year interview with Mrs. Christeson.

1. What are some of your favorite memories at MBA?

I think I have so many wonderful memories that it's hard to single out one or two. I've enjoyed all aspects of my time on The Hill. Working with the wonderful students has to top the list, but I've also been so lucky to share my time with such fantastic colleagues. My fellow teachers are all so talented, funny, interesting, and totally dedicated to their jobs, and our conversations have always been just fascinating! Lunchtime brings a surprising variety of topics, from literature to sports to complicated family relationships! But watching boys grow into young men, seeing that "light bulb" come on when a student really "gets it" for the first time, those are the best times for me.



2. What will you miss most about MBA?

I'll miss the boys, the students, the ever-changing list of young men who come to my classroom year-after-year, bringing their unique personalities and bright minds to bear upon the ageless topics of Latin grammar, Roman history, and the challenge of being a gentleman, scholar, and athlete.



3. What are you planning to do after you retire?

My husband and I have already made plans to travel to Chicago to see the Cubs play in Wrigley Field in June! I've never been there, but I've always wanted to go to a game there. And of course I'll be messing around with my horses, dogs, and cats. I'm hoping to tune up my harp and try to get back into playing a little, and I'm also looking forward to doing some painting, as well as working in my garden. But most of all, I'm going to sleep late every day! Yay!

4. Do you have any funny stories that you would like to share?

I guess the funniest thing that's happened to me was falling down in the classroom! The worst time I did it, I caught one foot in the strap of a book bag and started to fall, but I was about to regain my balance when I caught my other foot in a second strap! The whole thing seemed to take forever... as if I was falling in slow motion... and I kept almost not falling, but FINALLY I really hit the floor hard! Wham! There was a gasp from all my students, and I knew they wanted to laugh but were afraid to, so when I caught my breath I said, "I'm all right," and then they ALL just burst out laughing and couldn't stop! For

the whole rest of the day, every time I saw one of those guys, he'd burst out laughing again. One boy said, "Mrs. Christeson, every time I think about your falling down, it makes me so happy!" Wow, thanks a lot! But it was funny. So on the next Latin quiz, for extra credit I told them to draw a picture of my falling down in class! I got the best drawings... some were aerial views, some were kind of like time lapse drawings, some featured my face with a big round mouth going "OOOOOOOHHHH!" It was really pretty funny!

5. Do you have any additional comments before you leave?

I've loved being here, and I'll miss seeing all of my friends. It's been a great experience, and I want to thank all my wonderful students and wish them the best in their lives. I love you guys!



In Memoriam



MARCUS PIGGEE
1972 – 2015

Teacher, Coach, and Friend



Teachers Had a Life Before Teaching?

By John Raulston Graham

When sitting in class you tend to believe that the teacher has always been a teacher, but the majority of the time, that is a misconception. Most teachers had a job while in high school and college while some still hold a summer job. I interviewed a number of teachers about their former professions. I asked them the following five questions:

Did you hold any former occupations?

If so.....

Did you enjoy your former job?

Did you enjoy it more than teaching?

Is there any particular part of your job that you miss?

Is there any skill that you feel that you learned in your former job that help you to be a better teacher?

From these questions I got the following responses:

Mr. Russell – Mr. Russell worked at a cement company, landscaped, and cleaned parking garages during the summers. He much prefers teaching to his former jobs. He absolutely hated the cement company and the garage cleaning. However, he enjoyed the landscaping job. He learned to appreciate physical labor.

Mr. Wims – Mr. Wims sold computers for four years. He enjoyed selling computers, but he enjoys teaching much more. He “enjoys the work of working with young people.” He also says that he learned to handle people better during his job.

Mrs. Stewart – Mrs. Stewart became a teacher directly out of college.

Mrs. Christeson – Mrs. Christeson was a waitress at Hillwood Country Club, played harp for numerous symphonies and has taught music and language at many different schools. She misses playing in a symphony, and she feels being in a symphony helped her see what it was like as a student. For example, when she would make a mistake, she would get chastised just like a teacher to his or her students. Even though she loved playing, she enjoys teaching more.

Mr. Russ – Mr. Russ mowed yards all throughout school, and then worked for two years at UPS. He still works at a summer camp. He said, “The best day at UPS is worse than the worst day teaching.” He much prefers teaching to any of his former professions. He misses absolutely nothing about his old jobs.

Mr. McMurray – Mr. McMurray was a bellman at the Lowes Vanderbilt Hotel. He said that it helps him tremendously in dealing with people. He really enjoyed the job, and he misses the easy hours and the opportunity to meet celebrities. However, he still enjoys teaching over his former job.

Coach Jackson – Coach Jackson was an actuary and after that an investment banker. In case anyone was wondering an actuary is by definition “someone who analyzes the financial consequences of risk.”

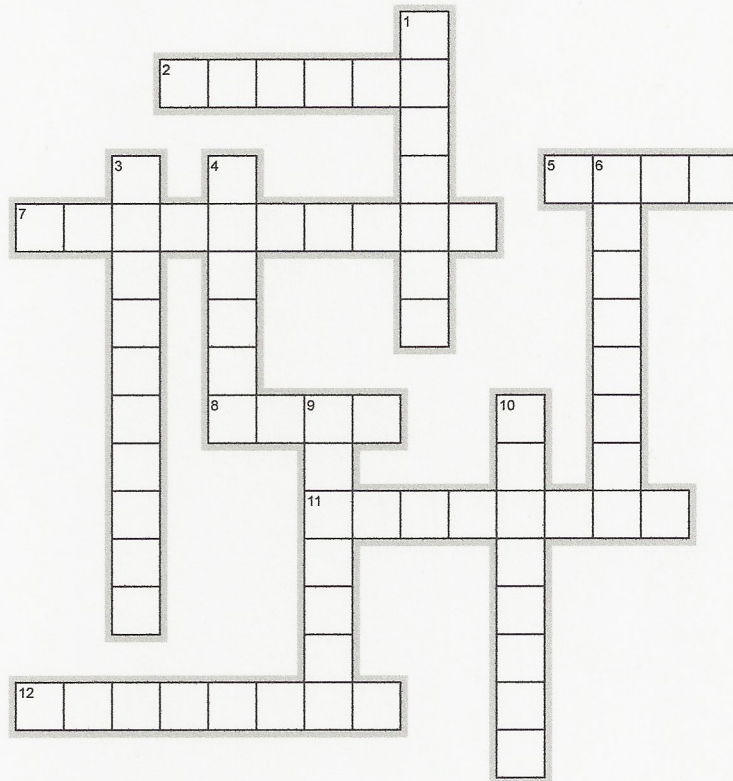
Mr. Kimball – Mr. Kimball worked in a machine packing warehouse, and he created spreadsheets for a land clearing company. He enjoyed both jobs.

Dr. Creamer – Dr. Creamer worked in a grocery store and umpired cricket games. He was a research fellow at Vanderbilt. He enjoyed all of his previous jobs. It was during his job at Vanderbilt that Dr. Creamer discovered how much he really enjoyed teaching. Of course he enjoys teaching more. He learned persistence during this job, which he feels really helps him in teaching.

TEST YOUR MBA KNOWLEDGE!

John Preston's MBA Trivia Crossword

John Preston



EclipseCrossword.com

Across

2. Loves soil and the Envirothon
5. The name of the clown who performs at MBA
7. Who says, "GENTLEMON!"
8. The only teacher who teaches geography and English
11. Next year's class president (two words)
12. "I can tell you _____ has the best notes" (2 words with space in between)

Down

1. A room with a broken printer and two computers (two words)
3. Name of the main quadrangle on campus (2 words)
4. The team that won field day.
6. Who we beat in the state championship football game.
9. One of the lunchroom ladies
10. The guy on the back of this year's homecoming t-shirt (2 words)

LIFE PREDICTIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2019

Michael Ambrosius- <i>Animal Planet</i> narrator	alumnus	Otto Olafsson- Icelandic prince
Blake Andrews- Peewee Wrestling trainer	Julia Haberman- "The Godfather"	Parker O'Neal- Silent but deadly assassin
William Barton- Professional cross country runner	Ian Hall- Steak-N-Shake manager	Joe Owens- <i>Ice Age</i> producer
Luke Bernatavitz- Italian Stallion	Jackson Hannah- All-Star D League basketball player	Joseph Perazzini- Commissioner of D-league
Bennett Blackwell- Still living under his brother's shadow	Jack Harrington- Professional Xbox gamer	Nikhil Peterson- Promoted to "Dime Peterson"
Max Bostleman- Monster Truck Demolition Derby driver	Brenden Harris- Professional laugher	William Petroni- Yeti
William Bradford- Bunny rabbit farmer	Alexander Hasse- Professional bowler	Will Presnell- Mrs. Christeson's replacement
Peyton Brien- Uber driver	Jake and Tye Herbstreit- Mascots for Michigan	John Preston- Takes over SIUL
Jonathan Brown- Photographer at Tillman's wedding	David Hobbs- Intern for Mr. Anderson	Aditya Priyadarshi- Second person to design a Smart City
Charlie Bufkin- Owner of a Ford dealership in Mobile, AL	Liam Hubber- Finds cure for cancer	Graham Ragsdale- The next Pope
Hunter Burch- Founder of a charity to get people across the border	Webb Hunt- Claymation designer	Jack Rankin- Still trying to coach his own sports team
Reed Campbell- Rabbi Reed	Henry Hylbert- Skinny jeans designer	Carson Reisinger- Singer at Mrs. Raines birthday party
Henry Caver- Gingerbread Man	Zachary Johnson- Sardine fisherman	Alex Saavedra- Inventor of the first transformer
Will Caver- The Lucky Leprechaun	Ross Johnson- Creates a hair solution to lose red hair	Jackson Singer- Still making people go crazy
Henry Clark- Lowest paid professional lacrosse player	Jake Johnston- Las Vegas card dealer	Daniel Skaff- Honks if he speaks Latin
Walker Conner- Statistician for UT baseball	Thomas Jouan- CEO of Baguette Industries	Jadin Smith- Wins Heisman trophy for running back
Campbell Cook- Director of new <i>Spider Man</i> movie	Clark Kaminsky- Goccer coach (goccer not soccer)	Carlos Soria-Garcia- Leader of the Mexican Olympic soccer team
Cole Crider- Owner of Red Solo Cup company	Adric Kimbrough- Rapper at Mr. Kimball's wedding	Reagan Sparks- First person to learn every language
John Curry- Body builder	Cannon King- Voice impersonator	Harrison Steanson-Chicken Little
William Davis- Alum/Booster	Blake Kirchenbauer- Minor League All-Star player	Joseph Stevens- Chia Pet designer
Tillman Dean- The next Mr. Chillemain	Connor Krumm Member of the USA Olympic crew team	William Steward- UT head baseball coach
Sam Decoster- Nuclear scientist	Luke Ladd- Clint Eastwood impersonator	Hugh Sullivan- Singer at Katie Stark's wedding
John Dinkins- Shaun White clothes designer	Arthur Laffer- Next MBA "B" team soccer coach	Marshall Summar- Olympic swimmer
Walt Dobson- Sun tanning model	Jackson Lampley- All-Star quarterback for Vanderbilt	Andrew Sutphin- Cheering for the best team in college sports
Sam Dugan- Bodybuilder	Paul Lee- First person to speak faster than the speed of sound	Chris Tarquinio- First ginger lacrosse goalie
Joel Elasy- Archaeologist	Danny Lee- National reader of Korea	Bryan Taylor- Grammar teacher or professional boxer
Grant Ellison- Starting catcher for the Cincinnati Reds	Brandon Lewis- First person to hack into the U.S. Mainframe	Harrison Taylor- WNSL sponsor
Josiah Francis- World-famous magician	Jackson Link- Earth Science professor at NC State University	TJ Terrell- TJ the DJ
Franklin Frazer- Professional rower	Jackson Lyell- Mrs. Christeson's best friend	Billy Thomas- Mall designer
Sam Funk- Private golf trainer for kids ages 2-5	Alex Massad- Captain of GC Barcelona	Cole Turner- Shaggy
Zach Garfinkel- Parkour professional	Josh Meriwether- JAM producer	James Vest- Professional clarinet player for the Nashville Philharmonic
Doug Gaw- <i>MineCraft</i> designer	Garret Murphy- Zoo keeper for chimps	Ethan Way- Shaving cream model
Nick German- RecSpecs model	Braden Myers- UNC lacrosse coach	William Wheeler- Record breaking professional golfer
Gibby Gibson- Manager of Fake Yellow Hair products	Will Nahley- Rubik's Cube specialist	Frank Wilk- The next "Red Lighting" (without red hair) for Alabama football
Atticus Glen- First person to win the Presidential debate as a spectator	Michael Nelson- Hair designer	Gray William- CEO of Twitch
Julian Goldner- Comedian at children's birthday parties	Casey Newell- Producer of sequel to <i>Saving Private Ryan</i>	
Nathan Goodrum- Pokemon designer	Nick Nola- The next Mrs. Qian	
Hugh Graham- Vanderbilt tennis coach/	Kanayo Offodile- CEO of "8-ball Industries TM"	

Junior School Memories

By Sam Funk

In the dawn of the Seventh grade, many false first impressions were made. For instance, everyone was afraid of Kanayo, and most people did not even know if Evans Looney was a seventh grader or an eighth grader. Then, there was the first mixer. Only the bravest men, like Ross Johnson, talked to the girls. In fact, Ross even started twerking. After that, the lives of many were changed by the creation of Magic Vids by Josiah Francis. Even though a ton of people thought it was fake, the true supporters of Josiah (Doug Gaw) defended the fact that the magic was in fact real. During the school day, various life changing events occurred as well. For instance, Mr. Villemain (Chillemain) changed the lives of many. Where would people like Jackson Link end up without the guiding figure of Villemain giving class long lectures about Narwhals or about Jeffrey Dahmer? Then, many students learned very valuable lessons about how to hunt grizzly bears and to never hunt moose from the one and only Coach Euverard. Even Coach Wims taught his students the lifelong skill of break dancing. After seventh grade year, the students of Montgomery Bell Academy were prepared quite well for the long road ahead of them.

The memories of the Eighth Grade Year did not start at the beginning of the school year, but instead at the end of the summer. The summer provided many opportunities for some guys to finally break the ice with girls. William Wheeler came through in the clutch with his golf round with Caroline First, and many other guys became social. When football season started, Charlie Buffkin was ready to score another 300 touchdowns, until he got injured. The MBA team, without Charlie, prevailed in a huge upset victory over a team that no one had ever heard of. Another highlight of the year was when MBA won the state championship in football. With cowbells that left everyone's hands bloody, the Big Red was able to defeat Ensworth. Over the span of the next few months, the MBA 8th grade basketball team took the court looking to defend the HVAC championship. With the tag team of Hunter Burch and Jackson Hannah, the MBA team was looking good. Then midway through the season, rookie manager Sam Funk joined the team and everything went crazy. Unknowing of how to work the camera or really do anything required to be a manager, Sam Funk did not turn out to be a big help. After all these events occurred, the one thing that everyone had been waiting for had arrived, field day. With the epic face off of Cardinal vs. Silver, the day was great. Even though the star athletes of the Cardinal team did not show for the pull ups event, the eighth grade cardinal team basically swept all other events..With eighth grade being a CRAZY year, the soon to be ninth graders look forward to high school.

7th Grade Memories

By Aden Barton

From the beginning of the year pool party to end of the year, it was a good first year for the seventh graders. The beginning of the year pool party was the first time the whole seventh grade got together. We started to meet our class and get to know each other. However, we really got to know each other when the entire class went to Long Mountain. This trip was the first seventh grade trip to Long Mountain in MBA history. We spent one night at Long Mountain and looked at the stars through the observatory. And of course the infamous first mixer at Harpeth Hall was a good chance to start to know the seventh-grade girls at Harpeth Hall. A few weeks into the year the entire class went to Camp Laney for team building activities. I think it's fair to say that everyone had a great time at Camp Laney, building boats and playing battle ball. One of the trademarks of the MBA 7th grade experience is the big-brother little-brother activities. These activities were a great way for new seventh graders to get settled into MBA and meet some seniors on campus. Whether it was playing battle ball with them or picking up trash, these events were mostly pretty fun. All in all our sports teams this year were pretty good with high hopes for sports like lacrosse and basketball.

The 2015 Nepal Earthquake

By Danny Lee

The recent earthquake in Nepal (also known as the Gorkha earthquake) is called the "Nepal Earthquake" because its epicenter was in Nepal, but the 8.1 magnitude earthquake affected Nepal, India, China, Bangladesh, and Bhutan. The deadly quake has officially killed 7,472 people and injured 15,000 plus, although it is predicted that much more have died. Some casualties are also being reported in the adjoining areas of India, China, and Bangladesh.

The quake occurred at 11:56 local time (NST) on the 25th of April, with a moment magnitude of again, 8.1 Ms, and a maximum Mercalli intensity of IX (Very Violent). The epicenter was 9.3 miles, or 15 kilometers, under the village of Barpak of the Gorkha district. The Gorkha quake is the most powerful natural disaster to strike Nepal and the surrounding areas since 1934. The earthquake triggered an avalanche on Mount Everest (which is in Nepal) which made it the deadliest day on



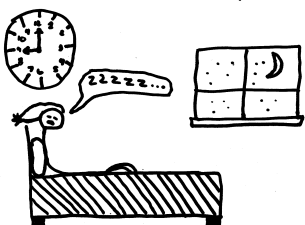
the mountain in recorded history. The quake also triggered another huge avalanche in the Langtang valley, where 250 are reported missing.

Hundreds and hundreds of thousands of people are now homeless, with entire villages decimated across much of the country. Scores of historic buildings and buildings of sentimental value to the nations were also destroyed, such as the World Heritage sites in the Kathmandu Valley, including some at the Kathmandu Durbar Square, the Patan Durbar Square, and the Bhaktapur Durbar Square. Aftershocks shook Nepal after the main quake, and one even reached a shocking magnitude of 6.7. Landslides are also very common right now.

In addition to the deaths, there are predicted problems with

the economy. Yes, the earthquake destroyed many businesses and caused huge financial problems for the big chain stores, but according to *ekantipur.com*, Nepal's travel and tourism sector accounted for 3.6% of the total employment, and that the business provided 553,500 jobs in 2012. Businesses like hotels, taverns, rest stops, gas stations, and sporting goods shops are all going to lose a lot of customers because they all depend on Mt. Everest's popularity with the international community for their business. Although there is an alternate route up to Mt. Everest through China, that requires special permission from the Chinese government and a lot of going through customs, and meanwhile, the mountain is still dangerous.

Good night
Junior School



Good Night, Mr
Wims
and your break dances

Good Night, Mr. Anderson
and
with your unique ways of
teaching

Good Night, Mr.
Villemanin, even though
you are in Croatia

Good Night, Mrs. Qian
with your many birthdays
and notes.

Good Night, Mr.
Russell and your cross
country team

Good Night, Mr. Bullington
and your amazing disses

Good Night, Ms. Raines
and your interesting
game days

Good Night, Mr. Brown
and your informative slide
shows

Good Night, Mr.
Russ and your
awesome advice

Good Night, Mrs. Christeson
and the "Newter Law." You will
be greatly missed!

*This is John Preston's Tribute to
his time in the Junior School.*

ISIL v. Taliban?

By Danny Lee

There is a lot of fun being poked at on user-generated “meme” sites such as reddit, due to the fact that the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant have announced Jihad against the Taliban and vice versa, as stated by Nabi Jan Mullahkhil, police chief of southern Helmand province.

Before getting into the main controversy, I would just like to explain the difference between “ISIS” and “ISIL”. There is no difference! Both acronyms refer to the same group. ISIS stands for Islamic State in Iraq and Syria because of it’s territory. ISIL stands for Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, also, due to it’s location,



but they are both actually the same group.

Before the declaration, the tension was steadily rising between the two groups. For example, in January 2015, Radio Free Europe reported that the leader of ISIS, Abu Bakr Bagdadi called the Taliban leader Mullah Omar a “fool and illiterate warlord” saying that the ISIS/ISIL had done more in the past two years than the Taliban group in the last 10. This is contradictory to the report that came in early April by

Alexei Arbatov, head of the Center for International Security of the Russian Academy of Science, which asserted that there was a risk of ISIL, Taliban, and Al-Qaeda merging into one group in Afghanistan. Although there is evidence supporting both of these claims, neither has been confirmed true, and for the most part, this issue is very controversial.

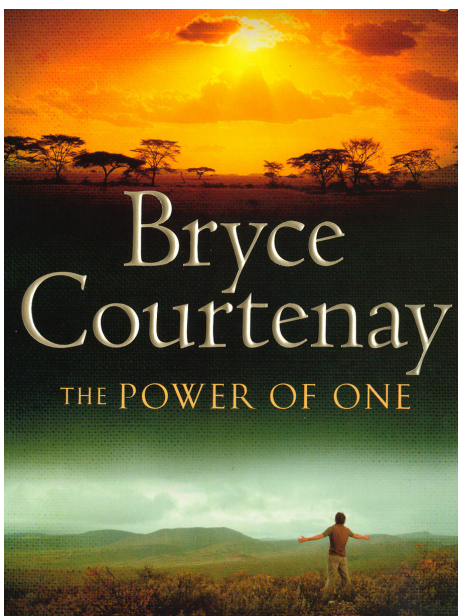
What do I think? Well, I feel like that the jokes that are being made about this issue are terrible. Mostly, in this culture, if you make a joke about someone killing a US soldier



or talking about things like 9/11 and the Pearl Harbor Bombing, you are considered a cold, cruel person. BUT! If you make a joke about two militant groups declaring war against each other

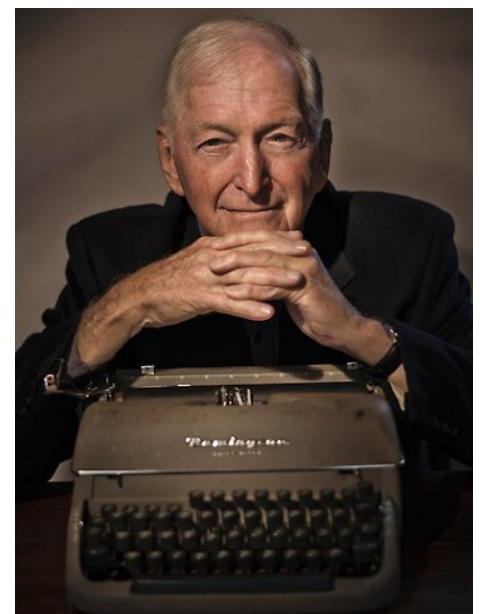
over a religion, it’s funny? I feel like a human life gone is a human life gone, whether it be from the American side or any other side.

The All-School Read for Fall 2015



The Power of One

By
Bryce
Courtenay



Cars And Coffee

By William Barton

Cars and Coffee, otherwise known as C&C, is a global gathering of cars from all around the world in many different locations; It has become a gathering of hundreds of drivers from all across the country to talk about cars over a cup of coffee. The event has become so popular that it is known as one of the largest informal car shows around the world. Here in Tennessee, you can go to a C&C every Saturday somewhere near you. They are all around Nashville, and the meets are free of charge. These events are a great way to meet new people and see the types of exotics, concepts, hot rods, motorcycles, and motor-sport cars that are in your area.

Recently, I attended a Cars and Coffee in Franklin,



Tennessee. The spontaneous meet-up is full of enthusiasts of Italian super-cars, school projects, imports, and restored beauties, who as early

as 6 o'clock in the morning arrive to show off their cars. The revving engines and red lights crowd the streets and highways of one location.



Hundreds or maybe thousands of people gather around, high on octane and caffeine, to see what got them out of bed early on a Saturday morning. Men, women, and children pile in with grins of excitement stuck on their faces, ready with cameras.

They wait to take a perfect shot of a unique car ticking away after the passionate drive there. The owners stand proudly next to their cars ready to open the floodgates and answer any question someone might have about the engine, upholstery, or any aspect of the car. At the end, noisy spectators skirt the edges of the sidewalk as the roaring engines depart, waiting expectantly for someone to peel out of the parking lot. All at once the parking lot is empty, and the morning comes to a close.



The Loving Pie Company Review

By William Bradford

If pie isn't your favorite dessert, here is a place that could change your mind. The Loving Pie Company is a local restaurant that sells both sweet and savory pies. Its most popular pies include its shepherd's pie, coconut custard pie, and their chicken pot pie. With a full espresso bar, which even includes a bacon latte (what a time to be alive!), you can swing by for dessert and a coffee or sit down to eat a full meal. There are many ways to get your daily dose of pie. With seven staple pies, which are always available, and many daily specials, the Loving Pie Company is definitely an off the beaten path place for a quick or relaxed bite.

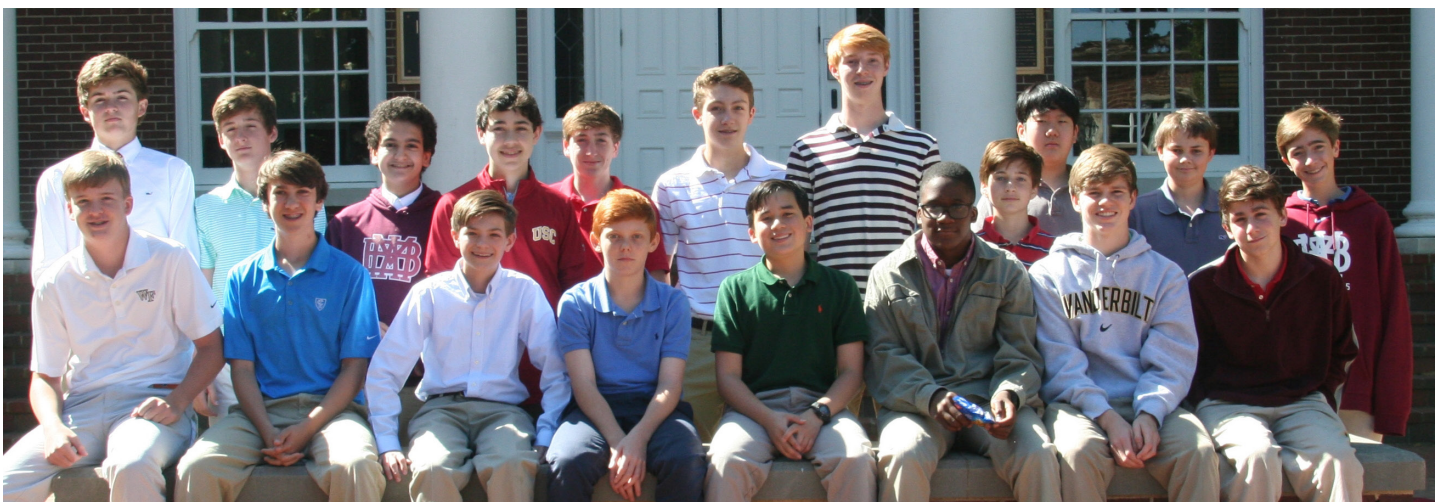
For the savory pie selections,



there are chicken pot pies, veggie pot pies, Frito chili pies, and shepherd's pie, as well as a daily quiche, whose composition changes daily. The sweet pies are the apple pie, the pecan pie, the chocolate pecan pie, the chess pie, the coconut custard pie, the chocolate chip pie, and the peanut butter-chocolate pie. Seasonal or specialty pies include the rhubarb pie, the cherry pie, and, my personal favorite, the cinnamon roll crusted apple pie.

Upon arriving, I was greeted by a friendly hostess who offered us inside or outside seating. I ordered

the shepherd's pie, which was delicious. The pie was made up of ground beef and peas, topped with a beautiful layer of golden brown mashed potatoes. For dessert, I got the sampler pie, a pie of seven different flavors which you can customize. I did not think the pecan pie was anything special, but the chocolate pecan pie was very good. The cherry pie was fine, although not very cherry flavored. The coconut custard, their bestseller, was my second favorite, just behind the cinnamon roll crust apple pie. The pie was composed of apples which were very fresh, and the cinnamon roll, a unique addition which added to how good it was. The pie comes with a container of glaze for the cinnamon roll, which was very tasty. Overall, I really liked the Loving Pie Company. It had a cozy, comfortable setting, and I recommend it with the highest regards.



Have a Great Summer!

From the Editors and Writers of Top of the Hill



The Grand Finale of “The Man”: A Four-Part Serial



By Somewhat Anonymous

I know it's been a tough few weeks for you, Danny, but we need to know everything that happened to you on that island.”

Where to begin? Danny thought.

“Well,” he started, “After my fake father tried to attack me, I was able to get out of his mansion and into the jungle. I ran for what seemed like an hour before I finally stumbled across a small camp with about five people. They said that they had worked for and been friends with my father before he ‘changed’ in the way that he did. Apparently, he had developed a drinking problem which led to mental illness which caused some memory problems. He would mix up situations, call people by the wrong name, and even forget who people were. That’s why he thought I was his son and developed an obsession with finding me. We had met once when I was younger, and our families were friends for a short period of time. Anyway, they were planning on leaving with one of the fishermen on the island once his boat got fixed up, and I went with them, and here I am.”

It had been a week since Danny got back from that place. Investigators were being sent over to the island and were slowly uncovering the real reason behind that place. Supposedly, they were drilling for oil under the island and selling it to dealers in Africa. As wild as it might sound, the entire setup was revealed and confirmed by several witnesses who had since escaped. The man who kidnapped Danny and the man who thought he was his father were both in police custody, and, for all intents and purposes, Danny was safe.

After the month he was gone, Danny’s mother practically fell over him crying when they were reunited at the police station. There was a big Welcome Home party and no sign of trouble for the next few months. However, one day, when Danny’s mom went out to the grocery store, she found a brown fedora and trench coat lying in front of their door.

THE END

The sponsors and staff of Top of the Hill are proud to reveal our author’s true identity and to thank John Thornton for four entertaining episodes of his serialized short story.

Mrs. Roberts’ Survival Tips

- 1. If you are riding in it, wear a seat belt.*
- 2. If you are riding on it, wear a helmet.*
- 3. Don’t eat yellow snow cones unless you ordered a lemon one!*
- 4. “The term “Hey guys watch this?” is usually followed by a really poor decision. Be smart and be safe!”*



Dr. Love Says Goodbye with Some Summertime Love Advice



Kanayo Offodile is Dr Love.

Thanks, Kanayo for a great year of advice.

Dear Dr. Love,

Lately, I've been struggling with flirting, and with summer coming up, I need some tips. First off, if I am at the pool and I see that an attractive girl needs someone to apply sunscreen to her back, should I volunteer to do it? Also, I saw in a movie once that a boy pretended to drown just so he could kiss the lifeguard. Would you think that to be a good idea? In addition, would women find it attractive if I went complete try hard in pool basketball or other pool sports? I'm in desperate need of advice!!!

From,

Troubled Seventh Grader

Dear Troubled seventh grader,

I'm here to solve your troubles about your summer love life. About rubbing oil on foxy women at the pool, the women need to ask you to do it because if you ask, it will make you look thirsty. You need to make yourself look appealing so the woman or girl can look at you or consider you. Also, flirting helps too. Second, with the fake drowning, do not do it, because while you jump in the water, the lifeguards might switch and you might end up mouth-to-mouth with a dude. Do not be a try hard on pool basketball. Just relax, be cool, and do not and I mean do not do anything really stupid. With this isse, the love doctor is signing off. Have a cool summer with the ladies.

Sincerely,

Doctor Love

Age of Ultron: Filling Very Big Shoes

By John Thornton

SPOILER-FREE

To start off, this is a movie that really grows on you with a second viewing. The first time I saw *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, I was left with an odd feeling, having just seen what I perceived to be a jumbled, crowded, confusing, and inconsistent film. However, after seeing it again, I began to appreciate it more and more. Joss Whedon had a near-impossible task: to live up to the first *Avengers* and please a wide variety of fans and non-fans alike. Although while I didn't think this movie was necessarily better than its predecessor, it was still an astounding and thrilling experience.

A lot of new characters are introduced in this film, and all of them



shined equally. Scarlet Witch, to me, particularly stood out with her mystical aura and Elizabeth Olsen's intimidating performance. Another addition, Ulysses Klaue, displayed Andy Serkis's considerable acting chops outside of motion capture roles (i.e., Gollum and King Kong).

As for the plot itself, the movie starts out with the entire team of Avengers reunited and working together on a mission in Sokovia. The team dynamic in this movie is very interesting with Tony Stark and Bruce Banner working together on a world peacekeeping program, and Natasha Romanoff ignoring her past encounters

with Clint Barton and Steve Rogers in favor of a relationship with Banner. Thor is as otherworldly as ever and is somewhat separate from the rest of the group as he deals with disturbing premonitions and problems back home. Nick Fury and Agent Hill show up as well as Dr. Cho, a new assistant to the team.

One challenge this movie faced was all the components it was given, and all the parts it wanted to add. We already have a team of six Avengers, each with their own problems to deal with, and there is still a lot of world-building and plot-advancing to do. There are characters galore, immense plans for the future, and an abundance of ways to go with the MCU.

In the end, though some might argue that *Avengers: Age of Ultron* was rushed and tried to cram too much in, I think it did a great job of juggling all the pieces that it had and moving forward to a climax of appropriate size and scale. I would rate the summer's first blockbuster an 8/10.

Apple Watch: The Future of Time

By Matt Kaplan



Watches are not a new thing to society. For over 100

years, watches have been used to tell time, and they are often considered to be a piece of clothing. Now, a new era of time, both literally and figuratively, has come upon us. The time has indeed come to put regular watches to rest.

A watch that can do more than tell time has not been a fantasy. In many

action movies, the main character often 'talks to his wrist' through some sort of microphone on his wrist. Spy movies constantly portray characters with watches that have gadgets and capabilities we would never expect from a watch. Therefore, the idea of a smarter, better watch has been tossed amidst

the minds of innovators for years, and Apple is the first to make it happen.

So what exactly does the Apple Watch do? Well, by itself, not much more than a regular watch. When you connect the watch to your phone, you can access your contacts and make calls. The watch also does other similar things your phone can do. According

to www.apple.com the small screen is efficient and allows you to see what you need at the right size. Lastly, the Apple Watch has a Taptic Engine designed to reinvent the notification. It taps you on the wrist when you have a notification. Without making noise, it doesn't interrupt anything, yet is strong enough to not go unnoticed.

The Apple Watch is quite an expensive piece of fashion. On Amazon, the lowest price is \$550. Many people wonder how Apple can hold such high prices on a watch. The answer is simple. Apple is the only company offering this watch; therefore, anyone who wants one has to purchase through Apple. I would not recommend buying one at this time. Soon, other companies will create similar watches at lower prices, causing Apple to lower their prices and work on a better product.

Reboots. Reboots Everywhere.

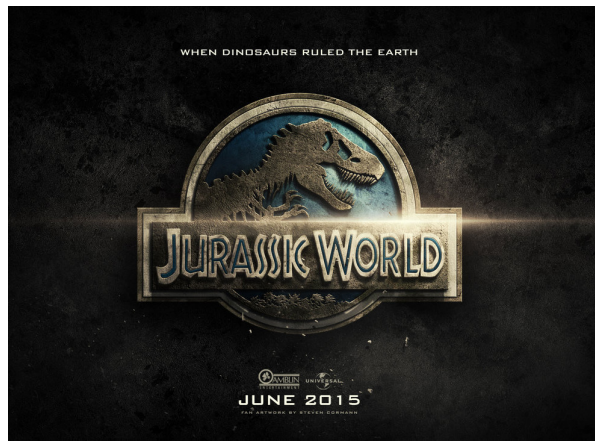
By Danny Lee

Although there are many good sequels and movies coming out this summer, such as *Mad Max: Fury Road* and *Pitch Perfect 2*, everyone is wondering if the two reboots of *Terminator: Genisys* and *Jurassic World* will do well.

The extremely general plot of *Terminator Genisys*, according to



IMDb, starts with Kyle Reese finding himself in another timeline, teaming up with John Connor's mother Sarah and an aging terminator to try and stop the one thing that the future fears, "Judgement Day." According to numerous sources, many die-hard fans of the *Terminator* franchise are worried that the movie will veer very far away from the canon lore. As of now, there has been a movie trailer tease and two official movie



trailers that look very cinematic and seem to merge with this generation's technology seamlessly. Because I was born in 2001, I don't know if the original movies had cutting-edge technology in their time, but I remember thinking that the CGI (Computer Generated Images) and the sfx (Special Effects) looked extremely cheesy and choppy when I watched the movie a couple of years ago. I was pleasantly surprised when I saw that the younger model of Arnold Schwarzenegger's CGI looked incredibly life-like. I am definitely going to watch this movie when it comes out on July 1 because it looks very beautiful, and its plot seems pretty interesting also.

The second popular reboot of this summer is *Jurassic World*. Although it's technically a sequel, the time gap (1993 - 2015) was so wide and the filming technology

so different that I couldn't really see it as a sequel. Again, according to IMDb, the general plot is that twenty-two years after the events of the movie *Jurassic Park* (1993); Isla Nublar now features a fully functioning dinosaur theme park, Jurassic World, as originally envisioned by John Hammond. After

ten years of operation and visitor rates declining, in order to fulfill a corporate mandate, a new attraction is created to re-spark visitor's interest, which backfires horribly.

Jurassic World comes out on the 12th of June and has numerous featurettes and three official trailers on YouTube. Just by watching the trailers, I can see that the budget of 180-plus million is being used very well with the very real looking dinosaurs and the amazing cast. I watched *Jurassic Park* a couple of years ago, but even then I thought that the movie had insanely good props for a movie that was made in 1993. However, I still feel like *Jurassic World* will blow it out of the water. If I had to choose between the two reboots to watch, I would honestly watch *Jurassic World*.



NBA Regular Season Storylines

By John Raulston Graham

With the NBA playoffs well underway, let us look back at the regular season. It was a wild season. Something unexpected seemed to happen every night. LeBron James went back to Cleveland; Klay Thompson scored 37 points in a quarter; Russell Westbrook exploded for 28 points, 9 assists, and 7 rebounds per game over the course of the season, and Atlanta went from the under .500 eight-seed to the one-seed, which has never happened before.

How about the Warriors this season? Steve Kerr set the record for most wins by a first year head coach (67) and best win percentage (0.817). Kerr passed Tom Thibodeau's debut season



Steve Kerr and the Warriors

in 2010-2011, Paul Westphal's record in 1992-1993 for the most wins, and Red Auerbach's win percentage record. Klay Thompson scored 37 points in the third quarter versus the Kings to set the NBA record for points in a quarter. He broke Carmelo Anthony's record of 33 points set in 2008. Stephen Curry not only won the Most Valuable Player in the NBA, but he also broke his own NBA record for most three pointers made in a single season (273). Draymond Green might not be the flashy like Curry or Thompson, but he finished second in both the Most Improved Player award and the Defensive Player of the Year award.

The Warriors have been great this season, but the other team that has been on fire is the Atlanta Hawks. Kyle Korver made three pointers in 127 straight games! Mike Budenholzer won the NBA Coach of the Year for his success in making a team without a star into a winning team. The Hawks also had the only undefeated month in NBA history. The Hawks were 17-0 in the month of January.

How about a great personal performance? The Warriors and the Hawks had top-notch seasons, but Russell Westbrook exploded for ten straight triple-doubles. Russell Westbrook seemed to be the only force that kept the Oklahoma City Thunder afloat in the absence of Kevin Durant.

The great performances of team basketball and impressive personal achievements have made this season one to remember.

Cited Sources:

nba.com; espn.com; cbs.com

Final Four Recap

By Ross Johnson



The road to the Final Four in Indianapolis was a very hard fought battle that ended with #1 seeds Duke, Kentucky, and Wisconsin along with #7 seed Michigan State taking up the four spots. Michigan State was not predicting to make it nearly as far as they did by the look of their seed, but head coach, Tom Izzo, is known for outstanding performances when it comes to the NCAA tournament. Kentucky's road was not very challenging because they were the overall #1 going into the tournament, which gave them some easier teams to play in the first rounds. They did not begin to struggle until

Notre Dame nearly upset them in the Elite 8. Duke and Wisconsin, on the other hand, had some hard games but came out on top by a

good amount of points each time.

The Kentucky Wildcats had gone all season with a perfect record. Going into the game against Wisconsin, they were 38-0. The Wildcats underestimated the strength and abilities of the Wisconsin Badgers and were finally beaten, ending their perfect season and eliminating them from the NCAA tournament. On the other side of the bracket, Coach K and his Duke Blue Devils had beaten Michigan State pretty handedly and were headed to the championship to face Wisconsin.

All season, almost every fan in America expected it to be

Kentucky versus Duke in the National Championship game, but the Wildcats overlooked the Badgers and were upset.

The Badgers had hot shooting all season long and every tournament game leading up to this one, but against Duke, they could not hit the backboard. It was looking very grim for the Wisconsin Badgers as Duke started to pull away and lead going into halftime. Duke lead for the rest of the game as Wisconsin kept trying to come back, but they were not able to, so Duke won the National Championship with a final score of 68-63.





Weird Mascots II

By Jonathan Brown

Otto the Orange: Syracuse - Otto the Orange is a cheerful looking orange with a blue and orange hat on. Seeing this odd orange at any sporting event surely terrifies the opponent. Otto was chosen by the students of Syracuse in 1990 as a replacement for an Indian mascot that was considered stereotypical and because the school color is orange.



Mad Ant: Fort Wayne (NBA D-League) - Mad Ant is a pretty self-explanatory mascot. He is a muscular, really mad looking ant. This mascot is pretty weird, but I don't think anybody cares because I am sure most people didn't even know there was a D-league in the NBA.

Burnie: Miami Heat - Burnie is a plump flame with a basketball for a nose who looks like something from Sesame Street. Burnie had to be let go in 1994 when during halftime he was dancing with a woman, and when she tried to pull away from Burnie, she fell. Burnie ended up getting sued for \$50,000 and has not been seen on the court since.



Big Red: Western Kentucky - Big Red is just a big red ball with a mouth, eyes, ears, and legs. Clearly, there was not much creativity involved with the birth of Big Red.

Biscuits: The Montgomery Biscuits (Minor League Baseball) - There is nothing more menacing than a Biscuit with butter for a smile. It has no name or origin; it is just a really good looking biscuit. (See photo above)

Oklahoma Sooners: Oklahoma University - The Sooner became the mascot in 1908 and was chosen because a Sooner was the name given to those who claimed land in the West before many of the other homesteaders. After knowing what a Sooner is, this mascot makes more sense.



Wenlock and Mandeville: London Olympic Games - Wenlock and Mandeville are pretty weird looking teletubby type creatures. The names of these terrifying abominations actually have interesting origins. Wenlock is named after a town called Much Wenlock which has a connection to Olympic history. Mandeville is named after Stoke Hospital where the Paralympics originated.



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Microbe A Baseball Rolls in the HVAC Class B Tournament

By Jackson Lyell

The microbe baseball A squad, led by coach Matt Golenor, started off with a rough and challenging season. The Big Red was made up of Cole Crider, Grant Ellison, Brendan Harris, Jake Herbstreit, Tye Herbstreit, David Hobbs, Blake Kirchenbauer, Jackson Lyell, Joseph Perazzini, Brennan Roach, Jack Sylvester and William Stewart. Through resilience, the team was able to pull through with an HVAC championship win. The Big Red started off the season with a convincing win over the Overton Bobcats with Cole Crider and Jake Herbstreit on the mound. After dominating the



Bobcats, the team went into a four-game losing streak against Lipscomb, Nashville Catholic, and Nashville Christian. Through adversity, the A squad trounced the Ensworth Tigers 8-4 with Brendan Harris, Jackson Lyell, and David Hobbs on the mound. Cole Crider also ignited the crowd with a booming triple to right field. MBA then went on a three-game winning streak.

Throughout the rest of the season, the A squad went through more ups and downs as they ended up in the HVAC Class B tournament with a first round bye as the number two seed. MBA rolled over the

Tigers yet again to go on to play Nashville Christian in the HVAC championship. Nashville Christian beat the Big Red 4-3 in the regular season. In the championship game, Joseph Perazzini helped the team start off well as he pitched five great innings. Brendan Harris scored the first run of the day off a wild pitcher. Later in the game, batting improved as nine batters had at least one RBI. Blake Kirchenbauer had four RBIs! In the field, Cole Crider finished up the season strong as he pitched the Big Red to victory over Nashville Christian 17-1. The season did not go as planned for the A squad, but they were pleased with how much they had grown as a team when they finished off the season strong with a tournament win.



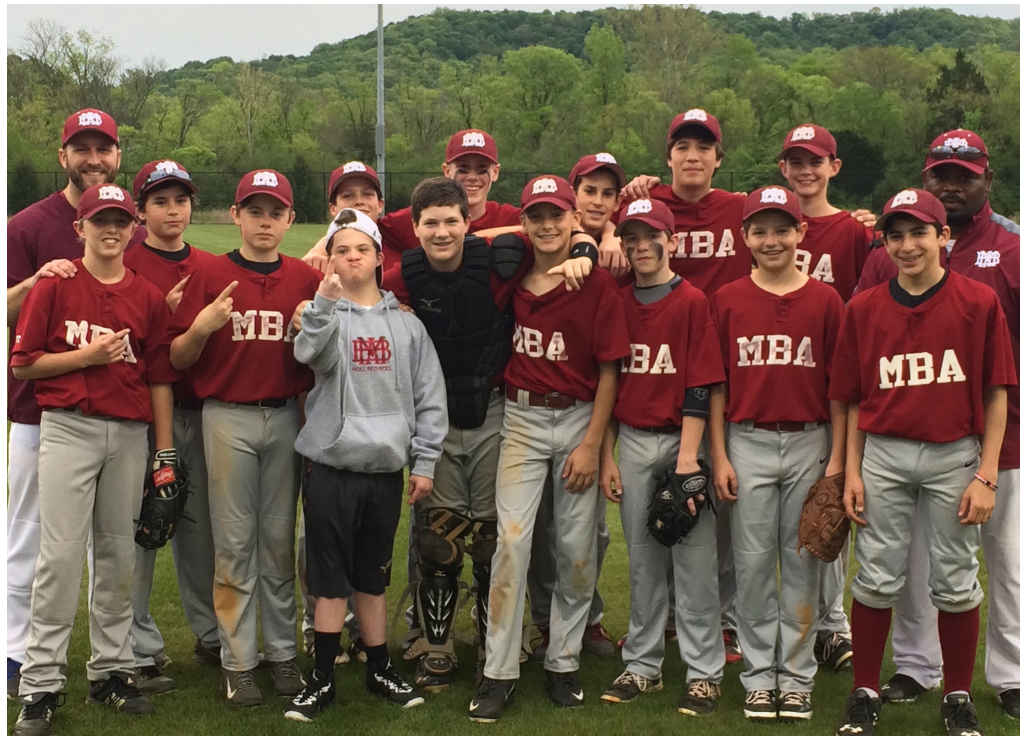
The 2015 Microbe A Baseball HVAC Champs!

Microbe B Baseball Season Recap

By Tripper Capps

The MBA microbe B baseball team had a very successful season, finishing with a record of 10-2. The team competed well all season long and bounced back after several tough losses with many quality wins. The Big Red started off the season with a 10-3 win over USN in which the team played strong defense and capitalized on many errors from USN. Jack McKennon, Harrison Hitt, and Tripper Capps all threw two strong innings to earn the victory. After the season opening victory, the Big Red played the Bobcats and suffered a tough loss, despite playing great defense. The team left thirteen runners on base, which was the difference in the game. Hitt and Robby Barnes each had key hits, but the Big Red was unable to capitalize when runners were in scoring position. Despite suffering the loss to the Bobcats, the Big Red B Team bounced back a week later to beat the Bobcats 4-2. Great pitching from McKennon, Ned Freeland, and Jake Stumb sealed the game for the Big Red, who capitalized with timely hitting.

Next up the Big Red traveled to Hillsboro to take on West End Middle. Taking advantage of errors and numerous walks, the Big Red run rued West End 21-3. Jacob Hanai and Peter Minkoff pitched



The 2015 Microbe B Baseball Team

well enroute to another Big Red victory. The Big Red continued their winning streak by defeating BGA 6-0. In the best effort of the year, the Big Red capitalized with timely hitting and a shutout from Capps and McKennon. Graham Holzapfel led the way with two doubles for the Big Red. Eric Russ also had a key single. The Big Red then played Lipscomb in one of the most exciting games of the year. Tied in the bottom of the sixth inning Nyles Robie struck with a two strike, two out single that won the game for the Big Red. Capps and Robie led the way, pitching for MBA.

After many rain outs and canceled games, the Big Red finally got a game in against West End Middle. Despite only leading 1-0, the Big Red answered with seven runs over two innings to seal the game. Hitt, Capps, and McKennon led the way with two hits each for the Big Red. In the most exciting and nerve racking game of the year, the Big Red defeated CPA 3-2 with a dramatic comeback victory. The

Big Red went up 1-0 early in the game, until in the fifth inning when CPA answered back with two runs, and then it looked bleak for MBA. In the top of the sixth, the Big Red got two base-runners on and then on a ground ball tied the game up. Later with two outs, Holzapfel came up clutch with an RBI single that put the Big Red ahead by one run. Hitt then pitched in the last inning, getting CPA one... two... three outs! Will Crawford and John Hyde also made spectacular catches in the outfield, which sealed the game. Much thanks goes to Coach Malone and Dr. Rader for their great leadership and support.



Photo Courtesy of Mrs. Beth Anderson

Junior School Spring Golf

By Jackson Singer



This spring, the MBA golf team had an up and down season with wins and losses across the board. Led by Coach Michael Kelly, the Big Red fought many hard matches against many talented schools including the team's two biggest rivals, Ellis Middle School and Ensworth. In their first match, William "the newcomer" Wheeler shot a great 39 to narrowly defeat Ensworth. The next match, William Davis shot a 40 to lead the Big Red in a victory over DCA. Even though the next match did not go the way that the team wanted, Sam Funk put up a fantastic score of 37 against Ellis Middle School and earned

the individual low score for the whole match. The team quickly regrouped and defeated Macon County with an eagle hole out by Matt Hawkins and a 37 by Jackson Singer, who tied the team's lowest score for the season.

"the newcomer" Wheeler and William Davis will go to Champions Run Golf Club and play as individuals to represent MBA. The junior school golf team consisted of Sam Funk, William Wheeler, Jackson Singer, William Davis, Webb Hunt, Matthew Hawkins, John Sewell, Marshall Summer, and Adric Kimbrough. The team would like to thank Coach Kelly for his support and involvement with the

The Big Red ended their season with a double match against two of the toughest teams in the district. It was a very difficult loss against Ensworth and Ellis, but the team received another chance at the final district match. After a long hot day at Riverside Country Club, the Big Red did not qualify an entire team, but they had two individuals qualify. On May 11 and 12, William



2015 junior school golf team. Great season, guys!



The 2015 Junior School Golf Team

MBA's Eighth Grade Lacrosse Team

By Garrett Murphy

The eighth-grade lacrosse team had a very successful season. The MBA lacrosse team dominated during the whole season. In the regular season, they did not lose a single game. The two biggest games of the regular season were against the McCallie School and Memphis University School. MBA played MUS first. The Big Red was leading 4-0 until MUS



pulled ahead at half time. After an inspiring speech by Coach Cooper at the half, the Big Red came back to beat MUS 12 goals to 9 goals. An hour later, MBA went on to play McCallie. The Big Red beat McCallie harshly with a score of 14-2.

After an undefeated season, the Big Red advanced to the McCallie tournament in Chattanooga. MBA played Riverwood first in the tournament. The Big Red had an easy victory. Then, they had an hour break before the next game in which MBA beat Baylor with another easy victory. Next, MBA was in the semifinals against Huntsville. MBA cruised over Huntsville into the championship against a very

talented Lassiter team. MBA was tired after three long games, and the Big Red lost a very close match against Lassiter 5-3.

After a long and hardworking season, the Big Red finished the season 17-1. Team captains for this year's lacrosse team were Chris Tarquinio, Will Nahley, Henry Clark, and Peyton Brien. A solid year of lacrosse set the goals high for this year's team in years to come. A special thanks to Coach Cooper and to everyone who helped the MBA eighth grade lacrosse team. Go Big Red lacrosse!

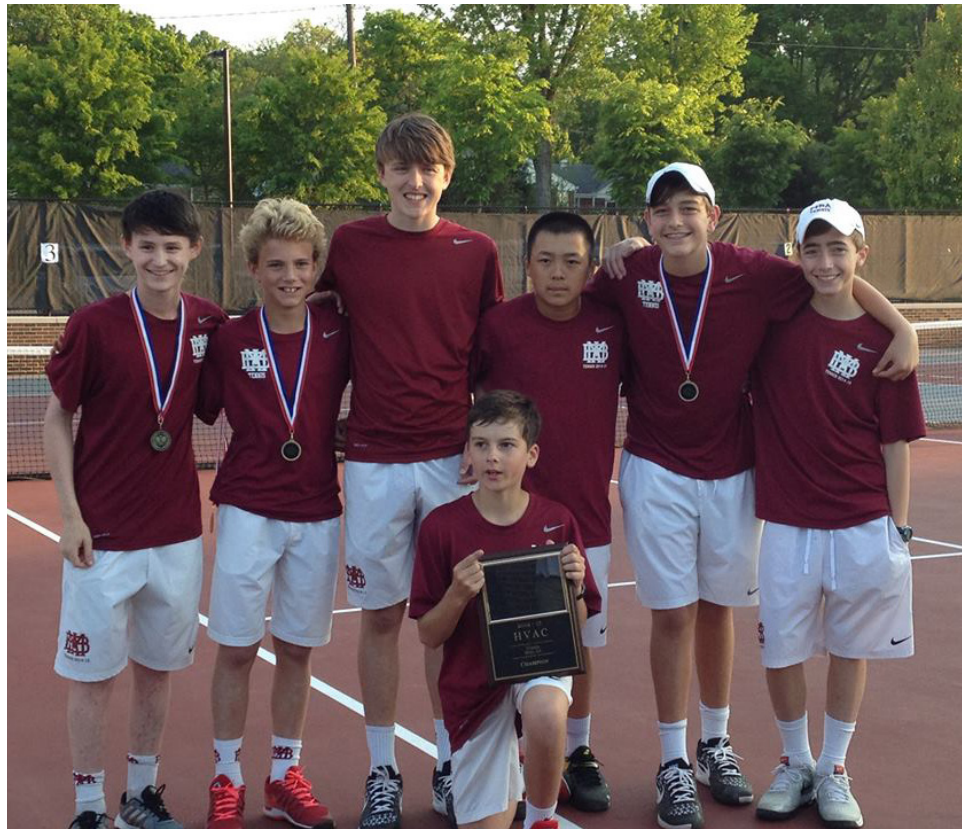


The 2015 8th Grade Lacrosse Team

Microbe Tennis

By Gibby Gibson

The MBA microbe tennis team successfully defended the HVAC title this year. Although the weather forced many practices and matches to be canceled, the team had a perfect record against other HVAC schools. In HVAC play, the Big Red proved its strength. All Big Red players were seeded one or two, so they all had a bye to the second round. At #1 singles, Baylor Sai swiftly won his match 8-2. At #2 and #3 singles, Richard Cummins and Michael Nelson beat their opponents 8-4 and 8-5. In doubles, Sims Lance and Gibby Gibson won 8-3 at #1 doubles, and Reed Campbell and Nikhil Peterson won 8-2 in #2 doubles. This win ensured that MBA participated in every single HVAC final, so they only needed one more win to receive the team championship, and it came



2015 HVAC Tennis Champs!

quickly. Reed Campbell and Nikhil Peterson quickly pulled out the win, 8-1. Sims Lance and Gibby Gibson won the #1 doubles championship 8-4. In singles, Michael Nelson won at #3 singles 8-3, which gave them the majority of the HVAC titles. Richard Cummins and Baylor Sai

unfortunately lost two hard fought finals, but MBA still ended up on top. The tennis team finished strong after a great season with Coach Boyd's leading the charge, and they couldn't have done it without him. Roll Red!

The staff and sponsors of Top of the Hill would like to thank the MBA Mothers and Fathers Clubs for their generous support this year!



HVAC Track

By Jonathan Brown

This year the microbe track team had a very successful season and finish at the HVAC championship meet. The field events and prelims took place three days before the finals. The day started out with pole vault in which Hugh Sullivan placed second, vaulting an impressive ten feet, and Jonathan Brown placed sixth. Next, the team competed in the long jump in which Ethan Way placed third, John Curry fourth, and Charlie Buffkin seventh. The team did exceptionally well in the boys high jump in which Sullivan cleared



The 2015 HVAC Champs!

were scoring points for the team in shot put and discus. In the shot put, Cole Carr placed 4th and Antonio Lithmexay placed 7th. In discus Lithmexay placed first, throwing 132.3, and Alex Hasse placed 5th. After the incredible performance in the field events, the Big Red was right on the tail of the dominant BA track team.

4 x 100 relay the team ran well and finished first, but then they realized they had been disqualified at one of the hand off zones. Nevertheless, the team put some of its resilience into action and got over the disappointing race. In the 4 x 200 meter relay, the team got third. Clearly, MBA was the dominant team in all of these events. After stellar performances from the distance guys, only one race was left, the 4 x 400 meter relay, and MBA was only 3 points away from defeating the seemingly invincible BA team. The race started, and 3 minutes and 51 seconds later the 4 x 400 team of Buffkin, Sullivan, Johnson, and Curry crossed the finish line first, and the team won the HVAC championship. The whole team worked very hard the whole season, and the victory was well deserved.



The 4x100 Relay Team

5-6 on his third try and then cleared 5-8 on his first try, shattering his opponent's confidence and placing first. Johnson and Buffkin also scored in this event, placing 4th and 5th. Meanwhile, the throwers

sprinters competed in the 100 meter dash in which Buffkin finished first, and Way finished second. In the 200 meter dash Way placed second, and Brown finished fourth. In the 400, Buffkin placed first, and Curry placed third. In the

When Friday arrived, the team was ready to finish strong. The day started with the boys' 110 meter hurdles. The teams of hurdlers, coached by legendary Coach Gaither, did very well. Buffkin finished first and Curry was just behind finishing second. Then the



Relay Photo Courtesy of Mrs. Julie Brown

THE MBA CLASS OF 2019



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